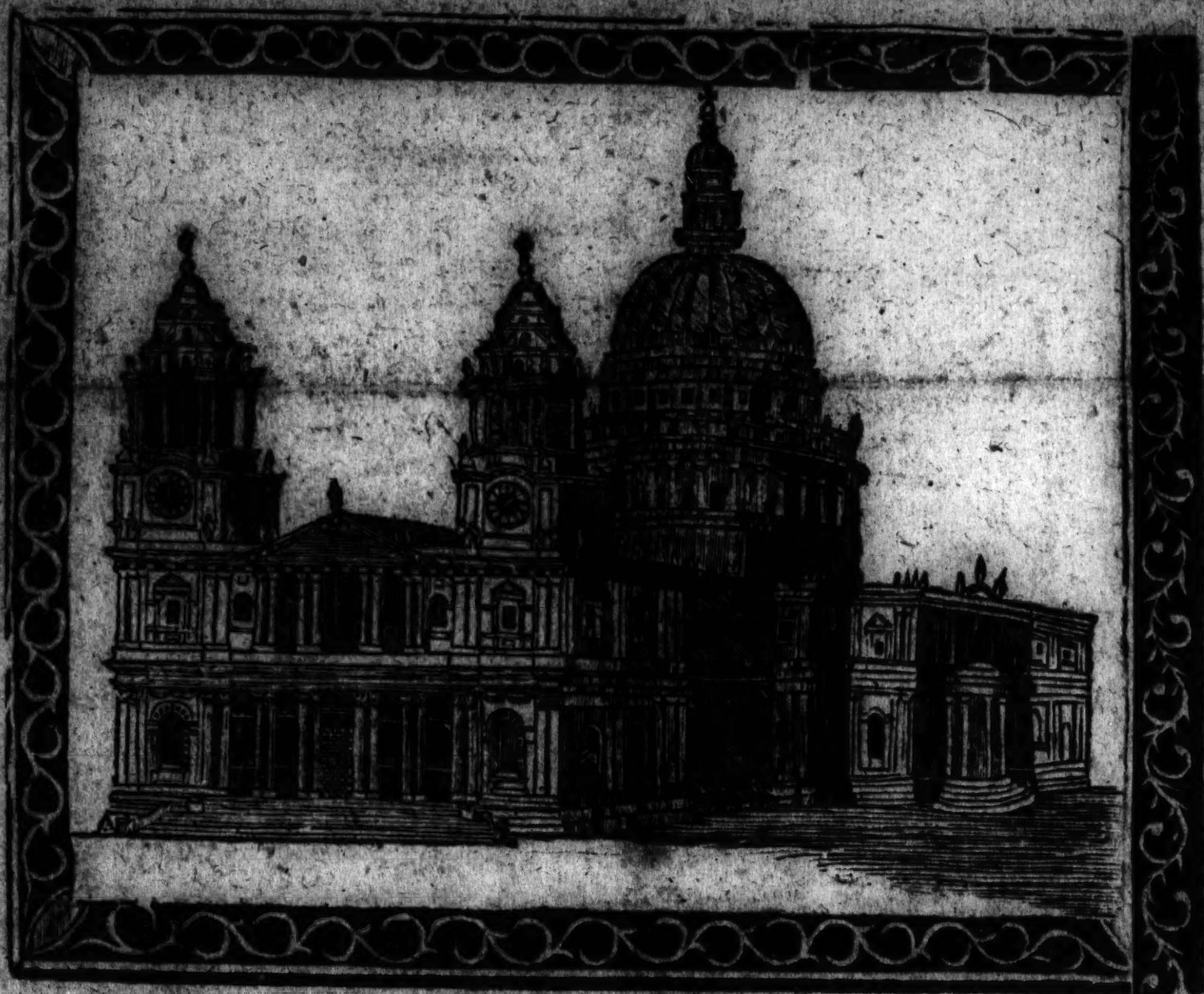


A True and Faithful Relation of the Damage that was done by the  
**THUNDER and LIGHTNING**  
 To the Parish Church and Steeple of *Crocomb*, near *Stogomer* in the County of *Somerset*.



ON Sunday the 20th of December 1704 the Parishioners of *Crocomb* having been at the Church in the Morning, where were Prayers, and a Sermon Preach'd by the Reverend Mr. *Farthing* Minister of the Parish, as Usual. After Dinner some Thunder was heard & Lightning ensued, but between 2 and 3 of the Clock in the Afternoon, the Clark according to his Custom had Chimed the Bells twice, & was Toling the great Bell & many of the Congregation were come to the Church, particularly Mr. *Sweeting* and his wife, Mr. *Emanuel Webb* and his Wife and about forty others being in the Church and Church Poreh at the same time, but by the good Providence of God the Minister with his Family were not come into the Church, when a most Dreadful Clap of Thunder accompanied with Lightning that resembled Balls of Fire Split the Steeple, so that the light came in through the joints of the stones, in every Square of the Steeple, and a large Stone about 100 weight which was fixt firm in the top of the Tower between the Battlements of the Tower and the Steeple was torn up and thrown over the Battlements, which are about 5 foot higher than the Place where the Stone was fixt, and fell down in the Church Yard. The strong Timber that supported the Great Bell that was then Toling, was broken in Pieces, so that the Bell it self fell down, and the Window that was near the Bell was struck quite out and broken to Pieces, and fell near 20 Yards off from the bottom of the Tower. The Belfry Window made of Stone, was broke in with such violence that the Stones flew all over the Church and Chancel. The South Window of the Chancel is very much shattered and a Stone of a vast weight fell in upon the Communion Rail and broke it, from thence it fell under the Communion Table and broke the frame of the Table and now stands there on one end. The East Window of the Church is likewise very much shattered and a Hole struck quite through the wall of 3 foot thick under the said Window, and many of the people were struck down, but through Gods Mercy Received no harm.

The outside of the Church is very much Damaged in several places and near half of the Dial-Plate of the Clock is struck out, the Weather Cock is Burnt and part of it fallen down,

Afterward the Congregation went into the Ministers House to Prayers instead of the Church.

The Printer hereof, hearing of the Damage done to the Church and Steeple above mentioned, took a Journey thither, (for the Satisfaction of himself and others,) and saw the Damage as express'd above, and receiv'd the Relation from *William Gridly*, Clark of the said Parish, who was toling the Bell when this Dreadful stroke happen'd, when a large Stone fell down from the Belfry Window just by the Place where he stood, and had it fallen on him it must have ended his Life, but being still Living, he desires to acknowledge the great Mercy of God in preserving himself and others when they were in such Eminent Danger.

From Thunder, Lightning and Tempest, Good LORD, Deliver us.

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